1	2	3
24.	Meghalaya	9375 (1/1/08)
25.	Mizoram	19127 (1/1/08)
26.	Nagaland	10063 (28/9/07)
27.	Sikkim	3614 (1/1/08)
28.	Tripura	47758 (25/2/08)
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3340 (1/1/08)
30.	Chandigarh	Nil (1/1/08)
31.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	Nil (5/12/07)
32.	Daman and Diu	88 (1/1/08)
33.	Delhi	200 (15/3/07)
34.	Lakshadweep	There is no forest area in this UT.
35.	Pondicherry	Nil (1/1/08)
	ALL INDIA	1696083

Note : Area under encroachments in various States/UTs are as on the dates indicated in the brackets.

Ganga action plan

1129. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than Rs. 1000 crore have been spent on the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) project to clean it but the holy river Ganga still remains heavily polluted;

(b) if so, the reasons for the failure of GAP; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to fix accountability of the agencies etc., who failed to execute GAP in its true spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase I, the first attempt as a centrally funded scheme for river conservation was launched in the year 1985. The Plan was taken up to treat partial pollution load to the river. Under this Plan, 260 pollution abatement schemes spread over 25 towns in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal were completed at an expenditure of Rs.452 crore leading to the creation of additional sewage treatment capacity of 469 million litres per day (mld). GAP Phase-I was declared closed in March, 2000. Since GAP Phase-I did not cover the pollution load of Ganga fully, GAP Phase II which included Plans for Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda besides Ganga was approved in various stages from 1993 onwards. The present sanctioned cost of works for

Ganga river (main stem) under GAP Phase-II is Rs. 564 crore against which an amount of Rs. 1373.58 crore has been released to the State Implementing Agencies. Out of a total of 311 schemes sanctioned, 185 schemes have been completed so far and the balance schemes are in different stages of implementation.

With the completion of the pollution abatement works under GAP Phase-I and II, notwithstanding the phenomenal increase in the urban population leading to substantial increase in the pollution load of the river Ganga over the past year, water quality of Ganga has shown improvement at major locations over its pre-GAP quality in terms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). The BOD values in the year 2008 range between 1.2 to 4.8 mg./litre in major monitoring locations as compared to BOD values ranging between 1.7 to 15.5 mg./litre in 1986. This is as per the water quality monitoring undertaken by independent reputed institutions like the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur and Indian Toxicological Research Centre (ITRC), Lucknow.

The Government has initiated an exercise for revamping the Ganga Action Plan with a view to promoting a holistic and integrated approach.

Pollution control guidelines

1130. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the instance of flouting of the pollution control guidelines in granting approval for expansion of a particular distillery unit, namely M/s N.V. Distilleries, near Ambala;

(b) if so, response, if any, of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) had accorded its approval for the expansion of the distillery;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for Government granting approval ignoring the HSPCB objections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The expansion of distillery unit of M/s N.V. Distilleries, near Ambala in Haryana has been accorded environmental clearance under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006.

(c) and (d) As per the information provided by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB), the HSPCB has not given approval for expansion of the distillery unit.

(e) As per the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, clearances from other regulatory bodies or authorities are not required prior to receipt of applications for prior environmental clearance.